

MISCELLANY

Under this department are ordinarily grouped: News Items; Letters; Special Articles; Twenty-Five Years Ago column; California Board of Medical Examiners; and other columns as occasion may warrant. Items for News column must be furnished by the fifteenth of the preceding month. For Book Reviews, see index on the front cover, under Miscellany.

NEWS

Coming Meetings†

California Medical Association. Session will convene in Los Angeles. Dates of the seventy-fourth annual session, to be held in 1945: Sunday, Monday, May 6-7.

American Medical Association. The 1945 Session will be held in New York City.

The Platform of the American Medical Association

The American Medical Association advocates:

1. *The establishment of an agency of Federal Government under which shall be coördinated and administered all medical and health functions of the Federal Government, exclusive of those of the Army and Navy.*

2. *The allotment of such funds as the Congress may make available to any state in actual need for the prevention of disease, the promotion of health, and the care of the sick on proof of such need.*

3. *The principle that the care of the public health and the provision of medical service to the sick is primarily a local responsibility.*

4. *The development of a mechanism for meeting the needs of expansion of preventive medical services with local determination of needs and local control of administration.*

5. *The extension of medical care for the indigent and the medically indigent with local determination of needs and local control of administration.*

6. *In the extension of medical services to all the people, the utmost utilization of qualified medical and hospital facilities already established.*

7. *The continued development of the private practice of medicine, subject to such changes as may be necessary to maintain the quality of medical services and to increase their availability.*

8. *Expansion of public health and medical services consistent with the American system of democracy.*

(Note. For interpretative comments, see *J.A.M.A.*, June 24, 1944, pp. 574-576.)

Medical Broadcasts*

The Los Angeles County Medical Association:

The following is the Los Angeles County Medical Association's radio broadcast schedule for the current month, all broadcasts being given on Saturdays:

KFAC presents the Saturday programs at 10:15 a. m., under the title, "Your Doctor and You."

In October, KFAC will present these broadcasts on the following Saturdays: October 7, 14, 21, and 28.

The Saturday broadcasts of KFI are given at 9:45 a. m., under the title, "The Road to Health."

"Doctors at War":

Radio broadcasts of "Doctors at War" by the American Medical Association, in coöperation with the National Broadcasting Company and the Medical Departments of the United States Army and the United States Navy, are on the air each Saturday at 1:30 p. m., Pacific War Time.

† In the front advertising section of *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, various rosters of national officers and organizations appear each week, each list being printed about every fourth week.

* County societies giving medical broadcasts are requested to send information as soon as arranged.

Pharmacological Items of Potential Interest to Clinicians*

1. *Bookward Ho!* Educational issue JAMA (August 19, 1944, Vol. 125, No. 16) always runs ads of hot medic volumes, but it misses a few: AAAS symposia, such as Aerobiology, Chemical Control of Insects, Tuberculosis and Leprosy, Malaria, Mental Health, The Cell and Protoplasm, Relapsing Fever, Fluorine and Dental Health, Surface Chemistry, and Blood Heart and Circulation (AAAS, Smithsonian Institution, Washington 25, for \$3 to \$4 each); various University Press publications on medicine, and medical society reports. Maybe some of these outfits should advertise in the Journal? Did you note J. S. Simmons & Co.'s *Global Epidemiology* (Lippincott, Phila., 1944, \$7)? Or R. L. Pullen & Tulane's *Medical Diagnosis* (Saunders, Phila., 1944, \$10)? Or O. Glasser's & Co.'s *Physical Foundations of Radiology* (Hoeber, N. Y., 1944, \$5)? Or F. C. Zapffe's series for med. students (Hoeber, N. Y., 1944, including M. Everett's *Biochemistry* & C. Thienes' *Pharmacology*)? Or K. Judovich & S. Bates' *Segmental Neuralgia in Painful Syndromes* (F. A. Davis, Phila., 1944, \$5)? Or T. Gordon's *Romance of Medicine* (Davis, Phila., 1944, \$5)? Or D. Bispham's *Malaria* (Wms. & Wilkins, Balt., 1944, \$3.50)? Or A. R. Rich's *Pathogenesis of Tuberculosis* (Thomas, Springfield, Ill., 1944, \$10.50)? Or E. C. Rosenow's *Poliomyelitis* (*Internat. Bull. Med. Res.*, N.Y., 1944)? Or W. H. Gantt's *Experimental Basis for Neurotic Behavior* (*Psychosomatic Med. Mon.*, N.Y., 1944, \$4.50)? Or the 1944 *New and Non-Official Remedies* (AMA, Chicago, 1944, \$1.50)? Or *Science in Soviet Russia* (Cattell Press, Lancaster, 1944, \$1.50)? Or Volume Five of J. Alexander's *Colloid Chemistry* (Rheinhold, N.Y., 1944, \$20)? Mimeo., but in book class are J. A. Phalen's *Blood Plasma Program* & J. J. Waring's *Spontaneous Pneumothorax* (Office Med. Info., Nat. Res. Council, Washington, 1944, free). P. C. Bucy edits *Precentral Motor Cortex* (Univ. Illinois, Urbana, 1944), with Fulton foreword and fine contributions.

2. *Thiouracil in Toxic Goiter*: E. B. Astwood's full summary appears (*J. Clin. Endocrin.* 4:229, 1944). In clinical survey by T. H. McGavack & Co., it appears that 10 per cent of treated patients show toxic reactions (*Ibid.*, p. 249). A. H. Meyer notes granulocytopenia after recommended dosage, with recovery after stopping drug and using pentanucleatids (*Calif. West. Med.*, 61:55, 1944).

3. *Insecticides*: W. A. L. David and P. Bracey show that activation of pyrethrins in fly sprays by sesame oil, lubricating oil, or butylundecyleneamides is caused by increased persistence of droplets (*Nature*, 153:594, May 13, 1944). R. D. Lillie and M. I. Smith offer important report on toxicity of DDT (*Pub. Health Rep.*, 59:979, 984, July 28, 1944). This is amplified in issue of August 4 with notes by A. A. Nelson & Co. Health hazard involved by oral or skin absorption—no data on inhalation in fly sprays—with possible hyaline and fatty degeneration of the liver, and with nervous symptoms. Ingested thiamin is NO mosquito repellent, say C. S.

* These items submitted by Chauncey D. Leake, formerly Director of U. C. Pharmacologic Laboratory, now Dean of University of Texas Medical School.

Wilson & Co. (*Science*, 100:147, August 18, 1944) in refutation of W. R. Shannon (*Minnesota Med.*, 26:799, 1943).

4. *Antibiotics*: S. A. Walsman & Co. demonstrate control of gram-negative infections by streptomycin (*Science*, 100:103, August 4, 1944). D. H. Rosenberg & J. C. Sylvester report penicillin rapidly penetrates meninges and that IV or IM administration should be effective in meningitis (*Science*, 100:132, August 11, 1944). J. Brunel reminds us that many others noted antibiotic action before Fleming (*Rev. Canad. Biol.*, 3:333, 1944).

5. *Thus and So*: In the July, 1944, *Gastroenterology*, dedicated to Ajax Carlson, appears W. Alvarez's discussion on heartburn. F. H. J. Figge & Co. show excessive porphyrin excretion by UV fluorescence and suggest relation to cancer susceptibility (*Cancer Res.*, 4:465-486, 1944). E. L. Way and L. K. Chan note low toxicity and high trypanicidal action of arsenical sulfonamide (*J. Pharmacol. Exp. Therap.*, 81:278, 1944). A. Albert & Co. of Sydney note antistaphylococcal action of mapharsen (*Nature*, 153:712, June 10, 1944). J. Sacks show glucose absorption by muscle occurs by formation of hexaphosphate on cell membrane (*Amer. J. Physiol.*, 142:145, 1944). R. W. Raven describes effectiveness of dusting proflavine powder in wounds (*Lancet*, 2:73, July 15, 1944). J. H. Ridout & Co. find that alloxan causes hypoglycemia by killing islet cells, with resulting insulin leeching into blood (*Science*, 100:57, July 21, 1944). I. Aird discusses military surgery in geographical perspective (*Edin. Med. J.*, 51:184, 1944). J. F. Rinehart's ideas on salt metabolism in polio are in Naffziger volume (*J. Nerv. Ment. Dis.*, 99:825, '44).

Out-of-State M.D.s Coming to California.—Far more doctors from other states than ever before are applying for "reciprocity" California medical licenses, the State Board of Medical Examiners reported on August 29.

The Board said the increase "probably is due to the fact that many doctors in the military service wish to remain in California after the war; also many doctors in the East and Middle West are aware that over 4,000 California doctors have entered the armed service and they feel that now is an opportune time to start a practice in California and thus be established before the war ends."

Minimum Fees for Industrial Accident Work—Fee Schedules of Twenty-five Years Ago.—CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, in an editorial in the June, 1920, issue of the *California State Journal of Medicine* on page 212, and entitled "New Minimum Fees for Industrial Accident Work", discusses the problem.

In the July, 1920, number of the *California State Journal of Medicine*, under the report of the C.M.A. House of Delegates, appears a lengthy report, on pages 260-264, inclusive.

Also, the minimum fee table adopted on May 11, 1920, is printed in 1920 June issue on pages 237 and 238.

Association of Military Surgeons of the United States.—The complete program for the 52nd annual meeting of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States to be held Nov. 2-4 at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York City, has been announced by Col. Lucius A. Salisbury, Association president.

The opening session at 10 A.M. Nov. 2 will feature addresses by Maj. Gen. Norman T. Kirk (M.C.), Surgeon General, U. S. Army; Vice Adm. Ross T. McIntire

(MC), Surgeon General, U. S. Navy; Thomas Parran, (M.D.), Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service, and Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, Administrator, Veterans Administration.

A "Symposium on War Surgery," under the direction of Brig. Gen. Raymond W. Bliss, (M.C.), Chief of the Operations Service of the Army Surgeon General's Office, will take place during the afternoon of Nov. 2.

Discussion panels, which will be integrated with forum lectures and symposiums, will be held after the regular sessions on Thursday and Friday. Separate discussions led by outstanding specialists, have been arranged for medical, dental, veterinary, sanitary and medical administrative corps officers.

Other features of the meeting will be military and commercial scientific exhibits, arranged under the direction of Col. F. H. Foucar, of the Second Service Command Laboratory, Medical Motion Pictures, the Annual Banquet and special "Army" and "Navy" nights.

American College of Surgeons.—The American College of Surgeons, upon action of its Board of Regents, has canceled its Annual Clinical Congress because of the acute war situation that has developed, involving greater demands than at any time in the past upon our transportation systems for the carrying of wounded military personnel, troops, and war material. The Congress was to have been held in Chicago, October 24 to 27.

At the annual meeting of the Board of Regents which will be held later in the year, fellowship in the College will be conferred *in absentia* on the class of initiates of 1944, as there will be no Convocation exercises. At the same time the list of hospitals, cancer clinics, medical services in industry, hospitals, conducting programs of graduate training in surgery, and medical motion pictures, that meet the College standards, will be approved and later published.

All present Officers, Regents, Governors, and Standing Committees will continue in office.

War conditions permitting, the Clinical Congress will be held in the fall of 1945.

Psychiatric Rehabilitation Clinic.—The Department of Psychiatry of the Mount Zion Hospital of San Francisco announces the opening of a Psychiatric Rehabilitation Clinic for the treatment of ex-servicemen and women discharged from the armed forces on account of neuropsychiatric disabilities.

The Clinic will utilize both individual and group therapy and will be staffed by psychiatrists, internists, psychiatric social workers, vocational advisors, dieticians, etc.

The Staff will consist of Dr. J. Kasanin, Director; Dr. Emanuel Windholz, Chief Psychiatrist; and a corps of volunteer psychiatrists, psychiatric social workers, etc.

The project was made possible by a grant from the Columbia Foundation of San Francisco.

Address by Dr. Wilbur A. Sawyer, Former California State Health Director.—One of the world's best informed experts in international health is Dr. Wilbur A. Sawyer, who is now Director of Health for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. He has just assumed the important duties of this office following a service of a quarter of a century with the International Health Division of the Rockefeller Foundation. At the time of his retirement from the Foundation in June he was Director of the Division. Prior to his association with the Rockefeller interests he was Chief of the Division of Laboratories and finally Director of the California State Department of Public Health. He

recently addressed the New York Academy of Medicine, where he presented the Hermann M. Biggs Memorial Lecture under the title, "International Health." The address is printed in *California's Health*, semi-monthly bulletin of the California State Board of Public Health, in its issue of September 15, 1944.

Los Angeles Poliomyelitis Fund.—Five months of legal interchanges ended on August 25, with the decision that the \$17,265.88 collected from Los Angeles city school employees and pupils last February for infantile paralysis relief, is to be divided equally between the Harlan Shoemaker Foundation and the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, it was announced by the Board of Education.

Dr. Raymond E. Pollich, assistant school superintendent, in charge of such funds, said that each of the two organizations had agreed to accepting one-half of the fund collected here.

Northern California Physicians' Art Society.—With some 60 friends of the medical, art and musical worlds as guests, Dr. and Mrs. Chelsea Eaton and Dr. and Mrs. Francis H. Redewill were joint dinner hosts last night at Orinda Country club, celebrating the opening of the club's art exhibition.

This exhibit, sponsored by the Northern California Physicians' Art Society, consists of some 90 art pieces in oils, water colors, tempera, pastels and wood carvings.

Members of the society include 25 physicians in cities around the bay whose hobby is art in some form.

Among Oakland and Berkeley doctors who contributed to the exhibition were Drs. Chelsea Eaton, S. H. Babington, David Hadden, Albert Paul Krueger, F. H. Redewill and L. W. Wuesthoff.

The Northern California organization is affiliated with the national art group formed eight years ago, the American Physicians Art Association, of which Dr. Eaton is first vice-president, and Dr. Redewill, executive secretary-treasurer.—Oakland *Post-Enquirer*, September 15.

Perhaps Half of Nation Mentally Ill.—Some startling facts on the psychiatric toll of World War II were given to Huntington Park Kiwanians last Friday by Dr. D. D. Eitzen, Ph.D., noted psychologist and educator.

"Only 12 out of every 25 babies born today are destined to be 'normal' adults," Dr. Eitzen said. "Of the 25, one will be completely insane—the other 12 will be psycho-neurotics."

Reviewing the tremendous mental casualties of this war, Dr. Eitzen pointed out that from 33 to 60 per cent of all overseas casualties stem from mental breakdown and that 15 per cent of all 4-F's are emotionally undeveloped.

"However," he continued, "the war does not produce them. It precipitates them."

The alienist pointed out that this condition is a challenge to society, educators, ministers and psychologists of the nation, and urged an indulgent understanding of the problems of the returning servicemen. . . .—Huntington Park *Bulletin*, August 24.

Old Tubercular Spots Flare Up at 42,000 Foot Altitude.—Howard W. Blakeslee, Associated Press Science Editor, on September 5, reported that two doctors who voluntarily exposed themselves in the interests of science to repeated excursions into thin air at 42,000 feet developed active tuberculosis of the lungs.

This tuberculosis, as it was reported to the Aero Medical Association of the United States yesterday, was not caught directly in the altitude experiments, but was

caused by thin air reopening old, long healed tubercular spots in their lungs.

The report was made by Doctors Alvan L. Barach, Artell E. Johnson and Colter Rule, of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. The doctors making the experiments were not identified. Both since have recovered.

Their experiments were made in a steel chamber of a sort used by the army and navy to produce air conditions of extreme altitudes at which the latest fighting planes sometimes must fly.

The chokes, an affliction of extremely high altitude flying, were also described to the Association.

The chokes are coughing, something like asthma. Of themselves, they are not dangerous, but they endanger combat aviators, because a choking man cannot keep on his oxygen mask. He cannot live at high altitudes without his mask, so he must descend to lower altitudes, where flak is dangerous.

Doctors of Medicine as Others See Them.—"During recent years, the medical profession and its work have been much misrepresented in certain lay publications. A perusal of editorial comments appearing in some California newspapers, in which appreciation is expressed for the healing and altruistic work of physicians, should therefore be of interest."

The above item, with some quotations, appeared in *CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE*: July, 1942, issue, pp. 108-109; October, pp. 269-270; November, pp. 287 and 331-332; January, 1943, issue, pp. 49 and 50; February, pp. 92-93; April, pp. 255-257; May, pp. 305-308; July, p. 96; and August, pp. 146-147; September, 1943, p. 197. More recent items follow:

DOCTORS AND WAR

Experience will ever be foremost in importance in developing the efficiency of the individual and we may therefore look forward to the return of the thousands of medical men who are serving their country with the armed forces with a feeling that they have taken a post-graduate course which better fits them for service at home in times of peace.

In the past, when great battles were fought, loss of life was multiplied because of lack of prompt and adequate medical care for the wounded, the mentally sick and victims of the strange ailments developed in foreign lands. In the present war the story has been different. "Medics" have been given better preliminary training, better equipment and supplies. Now they are getting the experience of actual administration.

Even yet the full amount of the achievements of medicine on "D-Day" has not been fully impressed upon the country. It is reported that within forty-five minutes after the first troops landed on the shores of France, a medical unit was on the beachhead picking up the casualties, while in the background a landing craft was being converted into an operating theater.

Fifty thousand American doctors are in the armed forces and all are now trained experts at the business of saving lives. And while we think of the doctors and their trying experiences in both the battle areas and hospitals, we should not forget the doctors who have had to remain on the home front where all are working day and much of the night to care for the afflicted. They, too, are acquiring experience beyond which they would not have gone in peace times.—Chico *Record*, September 2.

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MODERN MIRACLE

The records established in production, in training and outfitting armies, and in meeting the thousands of other emergency needs of war, constitute modern miracles, un-

believable in any earlier era. But the greatest miracle of all is in the daily record of lives saved and maimed bodies reclaimed. There, America's military medical men have a record of achievement that is both magnificent and heart-warming.

A war department announcement reveals that our gallant medical corps men and women are bringing about the recovery of 96 per cent of all the men wounded in action—and that about two-thirds are returned to active duty.

Part of the credit for this miracle is given to modern mobile surgery which brings treatment to the men on the front lines. The dangerous delays of previous days when wounded men were brought to base hospitals in the rear before receiving treatment have been eliminated. New reconditioning techniques developed by the armed forces also have played a major part in achieving today's medical miracles. Every modern technical device and procedure are employed in restoring wounded men to health. Strange gadgets are used to strengthen limbs, backs, and abdomens gone flabby. In competitive games the men forget the casts on their limbs.

The medical record of World War II, compared to that of World War I, is miraculous indeed! But the armed services are not satisfied with achieving a 96 per cent rate of recovery. Continual research is in progress to make the record even better. The miracle men of the medical corps are accomplishing wonders in softening war's tragedies, and all America owes them a great debt of gratitude.—San Mateo *Times and Leader*, September 7.

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ASK YOUR OWN DOCTOR WHAT HE THINKS ABOUT THIS

Yesterday a Hanford doctor told the writer that one of these days the government is going to "force" him to retire from the practice of medicine.

He says that when the practice of medicine is socialized so that the government tells the patient what doctor to go to and when and where, he will feel compelled to stop being a doctor then and there.

We wondered about that. Today, your youngster is encouraged to attend high school, college and then perhaps medical school. He will serve many long years of apprenticeship both in school and in the first hard years after graduation. He will work many years for a very small income. But under the American system he still has the opportunity to become a great doctor or surgeon—to be better than the average, to be sought after for his talents.

If this is changed so that all doctors are lumped together like so many points in a ration book, your son may not aspire to become a medical student. Other people's sons may not want to suffer the long, tedious years of study and work required for good medical training. Then the brilliant medical history that has been written in these United States may begin to taper off. The progress we have made may be sharply curtailed, insofar as it benefits you and your family if you are forced to rely on a government doctor.

The arguments for and against socialized medicine are certainly confusing. Certainly some sound method of providing medical assistance for the needy and underprivileged can be maintained without destroying the fundamental principle of free enterprise which has developed so many great doctors, lawyers, surgeons, inventors, businessmen, etcetera in America.

Ask your own doctor what he thinks and what he knows about this. Our friend was deeply disturbed about the subject. It is vital to you and your family, as it is to every American. If you have an opinion, write a letter to the editor of this newspaper so that we can publish it and let others know what Hanford people think in regard to this subject.—Hanford *Journal*, August 26.

WAR HELPED HERE

The medical department of the Army has declared unequivocally that atabrine, the war developed substitute for the treatment of malaria, is even more effective for this purpose than time honored quinine.

Particularly important is the statement that atabrine has a high percentage of cures in the treatment of falciparum malaria, against which quinine has been of doubtful value.

Though the emoluments from war are few as compared with the terrific cost, they are not entirely nonexistent. Atabrine is but one of many which could be mentioned.

War demands what it needs, and in the development of those things serves in effect as a catalytic agent. Fortunately many of these discoveries can be used in peacetime for the benefit of mankind.

But how much better off the world would be if the same amount of energy, inventiveness and skill were employed solely for the advancement of the human race without paying the terrible price of war.—Fresno *Bee*.

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KEEP THE HORSE BEFORE THE CART

Recently a business man accosted a friend who said: "Well, Doctor, I see where they are going to socialize your business under the Federal Social Security Act."

The Doctor, who had spent his life helping the ill and afflicted in his community, regardless of their financial circumstances, said: "Oh no, my friend, they are going to socialize you. When the Federal Government takes six per cent from your employer on wages paid up to a specified amount, tells you what doctor to go to, when, and where, you will be getting the benefits of socialism, not I. When that day comes I will go back to pipe fitting, which is just working with a different kind of pipes than those in a human."

Yes, it's the public, not the doctors, that would suffer from politically appointed physicians. There would no longer be incentive for the better doctors to carry on. An independent pipe fitter would have more future than a socialized doctor.—San Francisco *Noc Valley Progress*, August 24.

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LET THEM SPEAK

More than 55,000 doctors are serving in the armed forces. A few years ago they were busy carrying on medical practices and bettering the health of the communities in which they lived. War removed them to far-away corners of the world. But they still find time to consider vital questions affecting the medical profession. A medical officer recently addressed a plea to every physician and medical organization on the home front. He said: "Please help keep the practice of medicine out of government control."

Commenting on this mute appeal, Medical Economics says: "Every medical society in the country should have a committee to help preserve free medicine. Such committee should tell the doctor in service about the problems they're up against and how they're attempting to counter them. Let them assure him that if it is humanly possible to do so his civilian colleagues will keep political opportunism out of medicine.

"More than anything else, the men who are fighting for us want a chance after the war to pick up where they left off. The least we at home can do is to try to assure them that chance. Legislation of the Wagner variety (to socialize the medical profession) must not be permitted to pass at a time when so many of our profession are absent from the country on active duty. They're entitled to express themselves at least on a proposal that would, if adopted revolutionize the practice of their profession. . . ."—Vallejo *Times Herald*, August 12.